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NSAE-00 RSC-01 SCI-06 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25

NEA-10 OIC-04 L-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 /134 W 125832

R 281446Z MAR 74 FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4144 INFO: AEC GERMANTOWN

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: AORG, AFIN, IAEA

SUBJECT: IAEA GENEVA GROUP - 1975-80 PROGRAM AND BUDGET

REF: IAEA VIENNA 2229

1. SUMMARY: AD REFERENDUM CONSENSUS WAS COMPLIMENTARY TOWARD RECLASSIFICATION OF IAEA MEETINGS AND REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM COMPONENTS; PROPOSED PROGRAM CONTENT AND BUDGET LEVELS WERE SUBJECT TO NO SUBSTANTIAL OBJECTIONS. HOWEVER, MEETING DISCUSSED POSSIBLE IMPROVEMENTS REGARDING PRESENTATION OF BUDGET, INCLUDING: ATTRIBUTION OF SUPPORT COSTS; SCANTY INFORMATION ON IAEA-UNEP RELATIONSHIPS; QUALITY OF JUSTIFICATIONS FOR CHANGES IN MANNING TABLE; FREQUENT FAILURE OF PROGRAM TEXT TO TRACK WELL WITH BUDGET. BRIEF DISCUSSION OF FINANCING OF BUDGET TOOK NOTE OF POTENTIAL PROBLEM OF CONTINUED CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS BUT GROUP REACHED NO CONSENSUS BEYOND DECISION TO LOOK AGAIN IN JUNE IF THERE NO IMPROVEMENTIN CURRENCY SITUATION BY THEN. ACTION REQUESTED: SEE PARA 9 BELOW. END SUMMARY.

2. MEETINGS AND NUMBER OF PROGRAM COMPONENTS: REFERRING TO PARAS 6-7 OF INTRODUCTION TO PROGRAM AND BUDGET DOCUMENT (GOV/1656), WITH LITTLE DISCUSSION, GROUP AGREED THAT REDUCTION IN CATEGORIES OF AGENCY MEETINGS AND REDUCTION TO 69 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM COMPONENTS FROM 96 IN LAST PROGRAM, WERE

WORTHWHILE DEVELOPMENTS. RATIONALIZATION OF MEETING CATEGOR-IZATION SHOULD MAKE STANDARDIZED REGULATIONS ON AND CONTROL OF MEETINGS MORE PRACTICABLE THAN BEFORE, AND COULD ULTIMATELY LEAD TO CENTRALIZATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT FOR ALL MEETINGS, WITH ATTENDANT SAVINGS OF PROFESSIONAL AND OTHER STAFF TIME IN SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM DIVISIONS. REDUCTION OF NUMBER OF SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM COMPONENTS PROMOTED CONCENTRATION OF RESOURCES, IN PRIORITY AREAS, IN AMOUNTS SUFFICIENT TO PRODUCE GREATER REAL IMPACT, AND ALSO MADE PROGRAM MUCH MORE EASILY COMPREHENSIBLE FOR NON-SPECIALISTS. COMMENT: THIS ASSUMES THAT REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF PROGRAM COMPONENTS REPRESENTS REAL CONCENTRATION OF RESOURCES AND NOT MERELY CALLING ONGOING ACTIVITIES BY DIFFERENT NAME. END COMMENT.

3.ATTRIBUTION OF SUPPORT COSTS: GROUP SEEMED SATSIFIED WITH ATTRIBUTION OF LANGUAGE AND PRINTING SERVICES (PROGRAM P) AS AGREED LAST YEAR. A&B COMMITTEE WAS PROMISED LAST YEAR THAT COMPUTER COSTS WOULD BE SIMILARLY TREATED; GROUP TOOK NOTE OF SECRETARIAT EXPLANATION WHY THIS NOT DONE (PARA 4 OF INTRO-DUCTION), BUT FELT THAT COSTS OF EDP SERVICES SHOULD BE ATTRIBUTED TO PROGRAMS BEING SUPPORTED IN NEXT AND FUTURE BUDGETS, CANADA NOTED THAT COMPUTER (ALONG WITH LABORATORY AND LEGAL SERVICE) COSTS, WERE NOW DISTRIBUTED TO SAFEGUARDS PROGRAM BUT NOT TO OTHERS RECEIVING SIMILAR SERVICES; EVEN LEAVING ASIDE MERITS OF PROPER COST PRESENTATION, SUCH TREAT-MENT SINGLING OUT SAFEGUARDS WAS NOT GOOD PRECEDENT. GROUP NOTED THAT TABLE G.4 OF BUDGET PROVIDED BASIS FOR ATTRIBUTION OF CERTAIN LABORATORY SERVICE COSTS TO OTHER PROGRAMS AND AGREED (IN SAME MANNER THAT SIMILAR TABLE FOR PUBLICATIONS WAS TREATED LAST YEAR) TO SUGGEST ATTRIBUTION THESE IDENTIFIABLE LABORATORY COSTS TO APPROPRIATE PROGRAMS IN NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET. AND ALSO TO SUGGEST THAT SECRETARIAT CONTINUE STUDY OF HOW OTHER TYPES OF SUPPORT COSTS COULD BE READILY IDENTIFIED WITH PROGRAMS SUPPORTED (SPECIFIC QUESTION OF LEGAL SERVICES WAS LEST IN ABEYANCE FOR A WHILE LONGER).

4. RELATIONS WITH UN ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM: PARA 29 OF INTRODUCTION STATED TOTAL NUMBER AND DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REQUESTS FOR UNEP SUPPORT, AND SOME PROGRAM SECTIONS INCLUDED GENERAL NOTE THAT COOPERATION WITH UNEP ENVISAGED. HOWEVER, GROUP NOTED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT SECRETARIAT HAD PROVIDED NO OTHER DETAILS ON REQUESTS TO UNEP AND RESULTS THEROF TO DATE, AND FELT THAT SUCH LISTING SHOULD BE PROVIDED, EITHER SEPARATELY OR, PREFERABLY, AS INTEGRAL PART OF PROGRAM BUDGET UNDER PROGRAMS TO WHICH REQUESTS RELATE; THIS WOULD PERMIT COMMENT ON PROPOSALS, ADEQUATE ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT ON OTHER AGENCY ACTIVITIES, STAFFING AND COSTS, AND WOULD GIVE MEMBERS INFORMATION TO SUPPORT REQUESTS WITH UNEP SECRETARIAT IF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

FELT THIS JUSTIFIED. GROUP AGREED TO REQUEST SUCH LISTING, AND ASK THAT IT BECOME STANDARD IN FUTURE.

5. JUSTIFICATION FOR MANNING TABLE CHANGES: SEVERAL DELS EXPRESSED DISSATISFACTION WITH QUALITY OF JUSTIFICATIONS FOR CHANGES IN MANNING TABLE, NEW POSITIONS OR UPGRADINGS.
GROUP NOTED THAT IT HAD MADE SAME COMMENT LAST YEAR, THAT A&B COMMITTEE HAD BEEN PRESENTED WITH ADDITIONAL PAPER WHICH FAILED TO ADD MUCH AT THAT TIME, AND THAT QUALITY OF SUCH JUSTIFICATIONS WAS ON WHOLE NO BETTER THIS YEAR; GROUP FEELING WAS THAT POOR STAFF WORK SIMPLY FAILED TO PRESENT ADEQUATELY THE JUSTIFICAIONS WHICH PRESUMABLY DID EXIST FOR CHANGES REQUESTS IN DOCUMENT. MEMBERS AGREED MAKE THIS POINT QUITE STRONLGY THIS YEAR, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF FACT THAT IT HAS BEEN MENTIONED, BOTH TO SECRETARIAT AND IN COMMITTEE IN RECENT PAST

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YEARS WITHOUT NOTICABLE IMPROVEMENT.

6. FAILURE OF PROGRAM TEXT TO TRACK WITH BUDGET:
PROBLEM APPEARED TO ARISE FROM AGENCY PROGRAM DIVISIONS
PREPARING BASIC SUBMISSIONS WITHOUT TIMELY (OR ANY)
INPUT FROM BUDGET STAFF AND TOO EARLY IN GAME; TEXT IS
THEN REWRITTEN AND BUDGET STAFF BROUGHT IN ONLY VERY LATE
(JANUARY-FEBRUARY) AND INSTRUCTED TO PUT COSTS ON ITEMS
WITHOUT ROUTINELY BEING GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY FOR INPUT

IN JUSTIFICATIONS, EXPLANATIONS, ETC. CONTAINED IN TEXT. GROUP AGREED THAT THIS PROBLEM, WHICH WAS NOTED AT VARIOUS POINTS IN TEXT OF DOCUMENT, WAS RAHTER DIFFUSE ONE FROMDISCUSSION IN OPEN COMMITTEE, AND FELT IT BEST AIRED PRIVATELY WITH DG AND SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS.

COMMENT: AS FAR AS MISSION CAN DETERMINE, ACTUAL PRODUCTION OF PROGRAM/BUDGET DOCUMENT WITHIN SECRETARIAT HAS BECOME RATHER HAPHAZARD AND UNSYSTEMATIC AFFAIR; BULK OF MEANINGFUL WORK SEEMS TO BE DONE BY CONSULTANTS ENGAGED BY DG, MOSTLY OLD-TIME AGENCY STAFF MEMBERS WITH LITTLE CURRENT EXPERIENCE OF WHAT BOARD WANTS IN PROGRAM BUDGET. WE ANTICIPATE THIS WILL HAVE TO BE RAISED STRONGLY WITH DG AT TIME WE PRESENT HIGHLY-QUALIFIED US REPLACEMENT FOR DIRECTOR OF BUDGET/FINANCE DIVISION; AT THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TIME, PROGRAM/BUDGET PREPARATION SHOULD BE RE-CENTRALIZED WHERE IT BELONGS, IN THAT DIVISION, INSTEAD OF USING DIVISION AS SIMPLE COSTING OPERATION FOR WORK DONE BY CONSULTANTS NOT ACCOUNTABLE TO BOARD. WE FEEL IT WILL BE USEFUL IF DG CAN BE MADE AWARE OF UNDERCURRENT OF GENERAL DISCONTENT WITH HIS CURRENT PRACTICES BEFORE THE TIME FOR THIS DISCUSSION ARRIVES. END COMMENT.

7. SPECIFIC PROGRAMS: ONLY PROGRAM WHICH CAME IN FOR DETAILED DISCUSSION WAS SAFEGUARDS. AND JAPANESE AND FRENCH (WHO HAVE OTHER AXES TO GRIND) LED WITH NOTE OF CAUTION ON EXPANSION OF SAFEGUARDS STAFF AND COSTS. FRENCH QUESTIONED PROPRIETY OF REQUESTING AUTHORIZATION FOR POSTS WITHOUT BUDGETING FOR FILLING THEM IN ONE YEAR (AS DONE LAST YEAR) AND THEN IN NEXT YEAR REQUESTING MONEY FOR FULL-YEAR STAFFING ON BASIS THAT SLOTS ALREADY APPROVED. US OBSERVED THAT ABUSE PREVENTED BY FACT THAT BOARD KNEW VERY WELL WHAT IT WAS DOING IN APPROVING NEW POSTS LAST YEAR, DG MADE NO EFFORT AT SUBTERFUGE, AND BUDGETARY ASSUMPTION ON NEW POSTS NOT AT ISSUE. FRANCE ALSO OUESTIONED HOW FIGURES CITED TABLE M.5 AND PARAS M.4 AND M.9 RELATED TO QUANTITIES OF MATERIAL AND NUMBERS OF FACILITIES IN US, UK AND EURATOM NNWS; GROUP AGREED TO REQUEST BREAKDOWN AND CLARIFICATION FROM SECRETARIAT. GROUP AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO ENCOURAGE SECRETARIAT TO KEEP CLASSIFICATION OF INSPECTORS UNDER REVIEW, TO PREVENT GROWTH OF ASSUMPTION THAT ALL INSPECTORS HAD TO BE HIGH-RANKING (I.E., P-4/P-5), AND TO ENCOURAGE DEVELOPMENT, IF APPROPRIATE AND POSSIBLE, OF USE OF GS STAFF FOR CERTAIN ROUTINE FUNCTIONS (E.G., INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT) IN ASSISTING PROFESSIONAL INSPECTORS. THERE WAS NO CONSENSUS THAT ANY SPECIAL OR IMMEDIATE ACTION WAS REQUIRED.

8. FINANCING OF BUDGET: GROUP NOTED THAT AGENCY'S BUYING RATE FOR AUSTRIAN SCHILLINGS (9:00 AM TUESDAY, 3/26) WAS AS 18.98 TO US \$1.00 COMPARED WITH AS 21.00 ASSUMED IN BUDGET; AGENCY ADVISED THAT IF THIS RATE PERSISTED, SOMEWHAT IN EXCESS OF \$3.6-MILLION OF CONTINGENT FINANCING APPROPRIATION FOR 1974 WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR BALANCE OF THIS YEAR, AND INSUFFICIENCY IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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1975 BUDGET ESTIMATES CONTAINED GOV/1656 WOULD BE ON ORDER \$2.1-MILLION TO \$2.6-MILLION OR MORE. GROUP SEEMED RELUCTANT (WITH US, PER STATE 39239 ENCOURAGING THIS RELUCTANCE TO STAVE OFF DISCUSSION OF CONTINGENT FINANCING APPROPRIATION FOR 1975) TO GRAPPLE WITH OUESTION OF WHAT, IF ANYTHING, SHOULD BE DONE BY A&B COMMITTEE: IN END, THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT PROBLEM WOULD HAVE TO BE FACED BY TIME OF JUNE BOARD IF DOLLAR/SCHILLING RATE HAD NOT IMPORVED SIGNIFICANTLY BEFORE THEN. THERE WERE SEVERAL HUMOROUS INQUIRIES AS TO WHAT US PROPOSED TO DO ABOUT STEADY AND UNINTERRUPTED SLIPPAGE OF DOLLAR AGAINST SCHILLING FOR PAST THREE MONTHS. THERE WAS ALSO SOME GRUMBLING THAT JANUARY RATE AT WHICH BUDGET COSTED HAS NOT BEEN SEEN AGAIN SINCE, BUT ALSO FEELING THAT COMPLETE RECOSING OF BUDGET AT LOWER RATE MIGHT BE QUESTIONABLE EVEN IF TECHNICALLY POSSIBLE. AND WOULD NOT PRODUCE REOUIRED REVISED ESTIMATES IN TIME FOR PREPARATION OF MEMBERS' 1975 NATIONAL BUDGET REQUESTS. GROUP TOOK NOTE OF DG'S PROPOSAL TO RETURN ANY UNUTILIZED BALANCE OF 1974 CONTINGENT FINANCING APPROPRIATION AS CREDIT AGAINST 1975 ASSESSMENTS (PARA 24 OF INTRODUCTION), AND VOICED NO OBJECTION. RE PARA 27, UK REPORTED THAT AGENCY HAD PAID SIX CLASSES POST ADJUSTMENT IN JANUARY, FIVE IN FEBRUARY AND SIX IN MARCH, AND THAT PROJECTED SEVENTH CLASS IN OCTOBER 1975 RELATED ONLY TO PROJECTED COST-OF-LIVING INDEX IN VIENNA AND NOT RPT NOT TO POSSIBLE INCREASES WHICH FURTHER CURRENCY SLIPPAGE WOULD REOUIRE. AS IN PAST, GROUP VOICED NO OBJECTION TO "SEMI-FULL"BUDGETING APPROACH WHICH INCORPORATED THIS PROJECTED INCREASE IN POST ADJUSTMENT AND IN EEEEEEEE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 28 MAR 1974 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974|AFAV02762

Document Number: 1974IAEAV02762 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A Film Number: D740067-1141 From: IAEA VIENNA Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974038/aaaaahjb.tel Line Count: 263 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION IO

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 5

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: IAEA VIENNA 2229 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: ANOMALY Review Date: 22 MAR 2002

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 MAR 2002 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <06 MAY 2002 by golinofr>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: IAEA GENEVA GROUP - 1975-80 PROGRAM AND BUDGET

TAGS: AORG, AFIN, IAEA

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005